

# SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY





# LAST TIME

- Incorporeality
  - No Body
  - All Spirit
  - We have both



# PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Infinite vs. Personal
- Incommunicable vs Communicable



# PERSONAL ATTRIBUTE

- God possesses all attributes essential to personhood.
- Intellect
- Self-consciousness
- Will
- But to an infinite degree.



# COMMUNICABLE

- We can have these same attribute of God, albeit to a limited degree.
- We were made in God's image.



# PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Incorporeality
- Intellectual: Omniscience
- Volitional: Omnipotence
- Moral: Holiness
- God's Love



# APPLICATION OF INCORPOREALITY

- God is a spiritual, immaterial being.
  1. That which is ultimate is not material in nature.
  2. We should have a spiritual focus in our live and not a material focus.
  3. Our most important needs are spiritual, not physical.



# APPLICATION OF INCORPOREALITY

1. That which is ultimate is not material in nature.
  - Persons are the locus of value
  - One single person is worth more than all the material universe combined.



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# APPLICATION OF INCORPOREALITY

1. We should have a spiritual focus in our live and not a material focus.
  - We should focus on spiritual things.
  - Material things do not matter.
  - Matthew 6:19-21



“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

MATTHEW 6:19-21

ESV



# APPLICATION OF INCORPOREALITY

3. Our most important needs are spiritual, not physical. We should focus on spiritual things.
  - Souls, not bodies.
  - 1 Timothy 4:7b-8



Rather train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

1 TIMOTHY 4:7B-8

ESV



# APPLICATION OF INCORPOREALITY

- Since God is spirit, a self-conscious mind, God possesses all of the attributes of personhood to an infinite degree.
- Intellect is one of those attributes-  
omniscience.



To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible,  
the only God, be honor and glory forever and  
ever. Amen.

1 TIMOTHY 1:17

ESV



# INTELLECTUAL: OMNISCIENCE

- Omni = all
- Science = knowledge



# SCRIPTURAL DATA

- Evident throughout Scripture
  1. God knows everything that happens.
  2. He knows the secret thoughts of each individual.
  3. God knows the future.
  4. God cannot learn anything.



O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

PSALM 139:1-6

ESV



For he looks to the ends of the earth and sees  
everything under the heavens.

JOB 28:24

ESV



“For his eyes are on the ways of a man, and he sees all his steps. There is no gloom or deep darkness where evildoers may hide themselves. For God has no need to consider a man further, that he should go before God in judgment.

JOB 34:21-23

ESV



The eyes of the Lord are in every place,  
keeping watch on the evil and the good.

PROVERBS 15:3

ESV



Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.

MATTHEW 10:29-31

ESV



“And you, Solomon my son, know the God of your father and serve him with a whole heart and with a willing mind, for the Lord searches all hearts and understands every plan and thought. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will cast you off forever.

1 CHRONICLES 28:9

ESV



The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? “I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.”

JEREMIAH 17:9-10

ESV



And no creature is hidden from his sight, but  
all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him  
to whom we must give account.

HEBREWS 4:13

ESV



Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

**PSALM 139:4, 14-16**

**ESV**



Set forth your case, says the Lord; bring your proofs, says the King of Jacob. Let them bring them, and tell us what is to happen. Tell us the former things, what they are, that we may consider them, that we may know their outcome; or declare to us the things to come. Tell us what is to come hereafter, that we may know that you are gods; do good, or do harm, that we may be dismayed and terrified. Behold, you are nothing, and your work is less than nothing; an abomination is he who chooses you.

ISAIAH 41:21-24

ESV



Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

ROMANS 11:33-36

ESV



Will any teach God knowledge, seeing that he  
judges those who are on high?

JOB 21:22

ESV



# SYSTEMATIC SUMMARY

- Omniscience is defined in terms of truth.
- God knows and believes all true propositions.
- God does not believe any false propositions.



# WHAT IS A PROPOSITION?

“: an expression in language or signs of something that can be believed, doubted, or denied or is either true or false”

Merriam-Webster



# SYSTEMATIC SUMMARY

- God knows only and all true propositions.
  - Past
  - Present
  - Future
- Because there are true propositions in each.
- He knows our free choices before we make them.



# NOT JUST OMNISCIENT

- God's knowledge goes beyond omniscience.
- Non-propositional knowledge
- "I have been treed by a moose."
- "Bill has been treed by a moose."
  - Reaction to the knowledge is different.



# NON-PROPOSITIONAL, SELF-KNOWLEDGE

- Essential to action
- If some one says “Bill is hungry,” if i do not know that I am Bill, it won’t move me to action to eat.
- God knows “God is omnipotent.” (Prop)
  - Also knows “I am God” (NP, SK)
  - Also knows “I am omnipotent”



# GOD DID NOT LEARN

- God knows all knowledge innately.
- Knows all truths innately.
- God has all propositional knowledge, holds no false beliefs, has appropriate self-knowledge, and he does so innately without learning it or acquiring it from anyone.



WOW!

➤ God's knowledge is even greater than "all-knowing!"



# NEXT TIME

- Read:

- Defenders 2-3- 14&15: Doctrine of God, pg. 97-112  
(Compatibility of Divine Foreknowledge and Human Freedom & Middle Knowledge)



QUESTIONS?

